

2-27-2017

## JR-17S-3099 Calling for the Creation of a Course Syllabi Bank

Student Government Association University of North Florida

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- 2   Whereas:   The Student Government of the University of North Florida was established to represent student  
3                   concerns in all University wide matters, and;
- 4   Whereas:   The Senate is the legislative body of the University of North Florida's Student Government given  
5                   the responsibility of carrying out such legislative acts that are necessary and proper for the Student  
6                   Body of the University of North Florida, and;
- 7   Whereas:   The academic environment is the foremost foundation for student learning at the University of  
8                   North Florida, and;
- 9   Whereas:   A Course Syllabi Bank would be an online database containing course syllabi from previous  
10                  semesters, in which students would be able to access at any time, and;
- 11   Whereas:   Student Government conducted an Osprey Voice survey during January of 2017, in which a total  
12                  of **726 Students** participated.
- 13   Whereas:   **93.18%** (670/719) of students said they are interested in having access to course syllabi  
14                  before/during course registration.
- 15   Whereas:   **93.19%** (657/705) of students said they would be better able to evaluate professors' expectations  
16                  and learning needs prior to enrollment by having access to course syllabi.
- 17   Whereas:   **99.15%** (700/706) of students stated that they saw at least one benefit of having access to course  
18                  syllabi, such as being less likely to withdraw from courses, being more likely to increase academic  
19                  performance, and being better able to discern instructors' teaching styles. There were additional  
20                  responses (please see attached).
- 21   Whereas:   These Osprey Voice results conclude that a Course Syllabi Bank would benefit the Student Body  
22                  by allowing them to make more informed academic decisions during the course registration  
23                  process, and;
- 24   Whereas:   Without a Course Syllabi Bank, students must make conjectures months in advance about  
25                  balancing their upcoming course load, instructors' teaching and testing styles, potential cost of  
26                  academic materials, etc. As a result, many students must make significant adjustments during the  
27                  5 days of add/drop week when they finally gain access to this information. These late adjustments  
28                  hinder students academically, and;
- 29   Whereas:   A Course Syllabi Bank will be most effective for the greatest number of students if instructor  
30                  involvement is mandatory.
- 31   Whereas:   Student Government recommends that an instructor provide a recent syllabus, with the  
32                  understanding that it is for student reference only and not to be considered binding, and;
- 33   **Therefore:   Student Government recognizes the significant benefits that a Course Syllabi Bank would**  
34                  **bring to the Student Body.**



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2 Therefore: We call upon Provost Earle Traynham and the Department of Academic Affairs to execute  
3 the creation, implementation, and maintenance of a Course Syllabi Bank for the students  
4 of the University of North Florida.

5 Furthermore: Let this Joint Resolution be sent to President John Delaney, Provost Earle Traynham, Vice  
6 President Mauricio Gonzalez, Dr. Radha Pyati, Dr. Gordon Rakita, and the Faculty  
7 Association.

8

9

**Legislative Action**

**Executive Action**

Author: The Syllabi Bank Ad-Hoc Committee  
Sponsors: USA Chairwoman Nina Lee and Senate President Dallas Burke  
Committee: University and Student Affairs  
Committee Action: unanimously adopted as amended  
Senate Action: adopted 23-0-0  
Date of Action: February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2017

Signed and Delivered to the Student Body President  
on this 9 day of March, 2017.

Place Time Stamp Here  
MAY 5 2017

Let it be known that JR-17S-3099 is hereby

APPROVED / VETOED

on this 9 day of Mar, 2017.

Signed [Redacted]  
Bella Genta, Student Body President

Signed and Delivered to the Senate Secretary

Place Time Stamp Here

MAR 9 AM 11:19

Signed: [Redacted]  
Dallas Burke, Student Senate President